

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended): A process for digesting woodchips used in papermaking comprising:

adding an effective digesting amount of a digesting additive comprising a

(a) sultaine, and

(b) a nonionic surfactant, selected from the group consisting of (i) polyglycosides, (ii) polyoxyalkylene glycols, and (iii) mixtures thereof,

wherein the weight ratio of sultaine to nonionic surfactant is from about 10:90 to 90:10,

to a slurry of woodchips and white liquor.

2. (canceled)

3. (currently amended): The process of claim 1 wherein the amount of digesting additive is from about 0.05% to 1.00% based upon the weight of the woodchips digested.

4. (canceled)

5. (original): The process of claim 4 wherein the nonionic surfactant is a polyglycoside and the polyglycoside is an alkyl alkoxy polyglycoside having the following structural formula:



where R_1 is selected from the group consisting of alkyl, alkylphenyl, hydroxyalkyl, hydroxyalkylphenyl, and mixtures thereof in which the alkyl groups contain from about 6 to about 30; and x is from about 1.0 to about 10; and glycosyl is a monosaccharide unit.

6. (original): The process of claim 4 wherein the nonionic surfactant is a polyoxyalkylene glycol having the following structural formula:



where m , which may be the same or different, is a number from 1 to 50, and n is a number from 10 to 65.

7. (original): The process of claim 4 wherein the nonionic surfactant is a mixture of a polyglycoside and a polyoxyalkylene glycol.
8. (original): The process of claim 5 wherein the weight ratio of sultaine to polyglycoside in the surfactant blend is from about 40:60 to 60:40.
9. (original): The process of claim 6 where the weight ratio of sultaine to polyoxyalkylene glycol in the surfactant blend is from about 40:60 to 60:40
10. (canceled)
11. (currently amended): The process of claim ~~10~~ 9 where the weight ratio of sultaine to nonionic surfactant is from 40:60 to 60:40 and the weight ratio of polyglycoside to polyoxyalkylene glycol in the surfactant blend is from 90:10 to 10:90.
12. (original): The process of claim 11 wherein the amount of pulping woodchips used is from 10 to 40 weight percent based on the weight percent of the white liquor.

Claims 13-20 (canceled)